UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/351
26 March 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 26 MARCH 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement issued on 25 March 1999 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan concerning the missile and bomb strikes by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the territory of Yugoslavia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Akmaral Kh. ARYSTANBEKOVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan
to the United Nations

99-08812 (E) 260399 260399

/...

Annex

Statement issued on 25 March 1999 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan considers the missile and bomb strikes by the armed forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the territory of Yugoslavia as a transition to the use of force to solve the Kosovo crisis. This has led to an escalation of international tension.

Kazakhstan advocates coordinated international efforts to ensure stability in Yugoslavia and the Balkans as a whole. Further tension and loss of human life can be averted only through effective and coordinated measures by the entire international community, making use of the relevant mechanisms of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. It is still possible to halt the bloodshed in Yugoslavia. Measures must be taken to ensure the immediate withdrawal of Serbian armed units from Kosovo, renew talks within the framework of the Contact Group and guarantee unimpeded access of humanitarian assistance to the civilian population.